

DETAILED ACTION

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

The application has been amended as follows:

Cancel claims 1-9 and 19-24.

Election/Restrictions

2. Claims 1-9 and 19-24 are withdrawn from further consideration pursuant to 37 CFR 1.142(b) as being drawn to a nonelected species, there being no allowable generic or linking claim. Election was made **without** traverse in the reply filed on November 13, 2007 with respect to the aforementioned claims.

3. This application is in condition for allowance except for the presence of claims 1-9 and 19-24 directed to a non-elected species without traverse. **Accordingly, claims 1-9 and 19-24 have been cancelled by examiner's amendment (see above).**

Response to Arguments

4. Applicant's arguments, see remarks, filed April 28, 2008, with respect to claims 10-12 and 14 have been fully considered and are persuasive. The rejection of the aforementioned claims has been withdrawn.

Allowable Subject Matter

5. Claims 10-18 are allowed.
6. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The examiner found neither prior art cited in its entirety, nor based on the prior art, found any motivation to combine any subsequent prior art which teaches a step of separately optimizing the ink quantity lattice points and the lower-dimensional color lattice points by separately enhancing the evaluations of said ink quantity lattice point smoothness evaluation function and said lower-dimensional color lattice point smoothness evaluation function and a step of maintaining either of the ink quantity lattice points and the lower-dimensional color

lattice points at optimized lattice points and readjusting the other optimized lattice points. These limitations render the aforementioned claims allowable over any prior art of record.

The closest prior art Fukao et al (US 7136523) discloses improving color reproducibility by enabling to control a smoothing condition for each of plural positions (lattice points) on a color space. When a color correction table is formed by using smoothing, the smoothing conditions respectively corresponding to the plural positions on the color space are set, and then the smoothing is performed according to the smoothing conditions.

Kita et al (US 5331440) discloses smoothing reproduction of gradations by varying the black ink quantity adjusting coefficient as gently as possible (Col. 8 lines 60-65).

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to JAMARES WASHINGTON whose telephone number is

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(571)270-1585. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday thru Friday: 7:30am-5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, King Poon can be reached on (571) 272-7440. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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